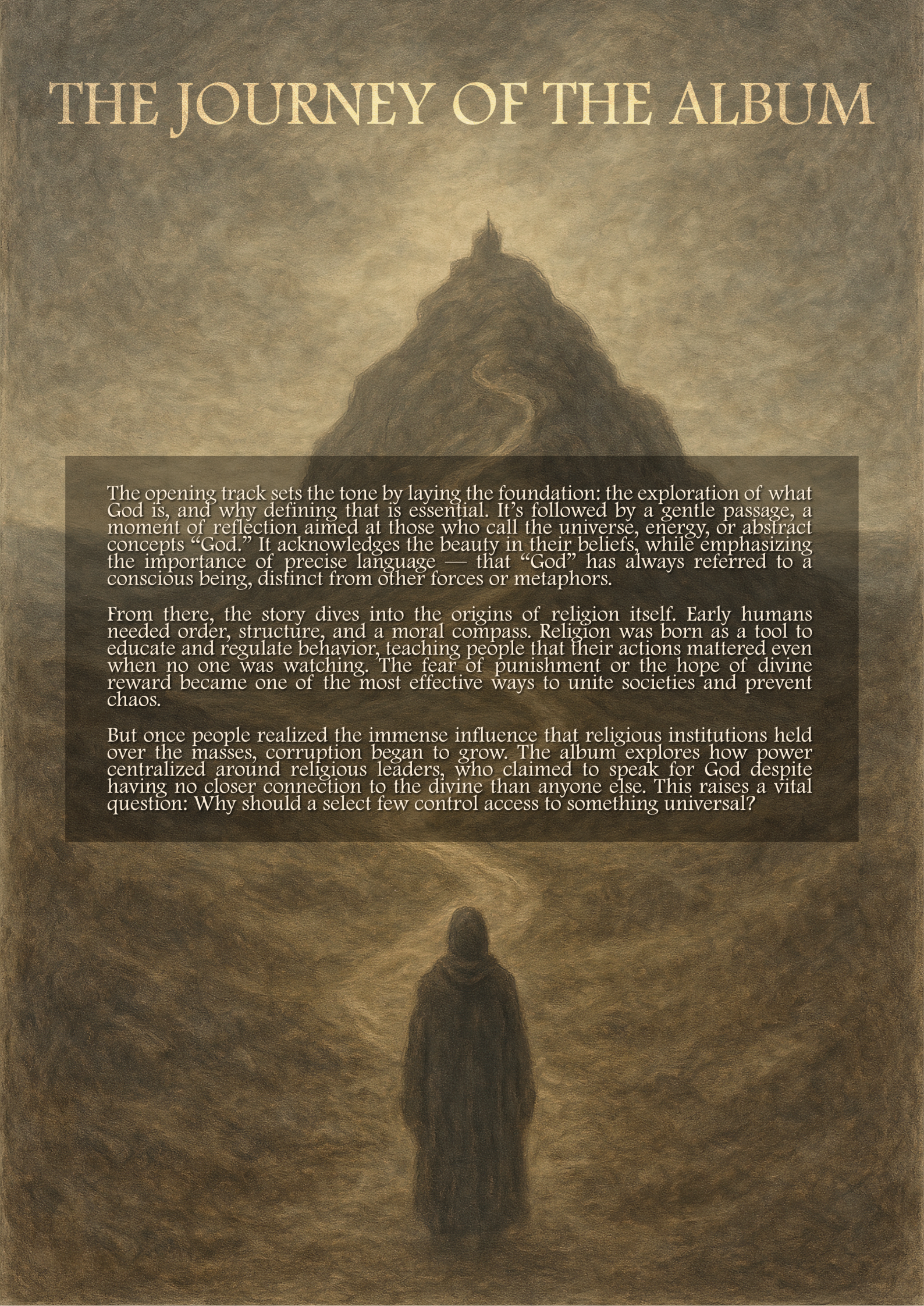
GOD REVISED
"THE CONCEPT"
NORBERTO PINAL

WHAT IS GOD?

This is the question at the heart of the album. Before discussing faith, religion, or spirituality, there's a need to define what God truly is. Across centuries and cultures, the word "God" has been shaped and reshaped, sometimes to the point where its meaning blurs. For this record, God is understood as a conscious entity, a being with awareness, will, and intent — not a vague metaphor for nature, the universe, or energy, but something greater and beyond.

Humanity's relationship with this idea is complex. The album traces how belief systems were formed, evolved, and sometimes corrupted. It's not an attack on faith itself, but a journey through history, psychology, and human behavior, challenging the listener to think critically while respecting personal beliefs.

THE JOURNEY OF THE ALBUM



The opening track sets the tone by laying the foundation: the exploration of what God is, and why defining that is essential. It's followed by a gentle passage, a moment of reflection aimed at those who call the universe, energy, or abstract concepts "God." It acknowledges the beauty in their beliefs, while emphasizing the importance of precise language — that "God" has always referred to a conscious being, distinct from other forces or metaphors.

From there, the story dives into the origins of religion itself. Early humans needed order, structure, and a moral compass. Religion was born as a tool to educate and regulate behavior, teaching people that their actions mattered even when no one was watching. The fear of punishment or the hope of divine reward became one of the most effective ways to unite societies and prevent chaos.

But once people realized the immense influence that religious institutions held over the masses, corruption began to grow. The album explores how power centralized around religious leaders, who claimed to speak for God despite having no closer connection to the divine than anyone else. This raises a vital question: Why should a select few control access to something universal?

THE DARK SIDE OF RELIGION

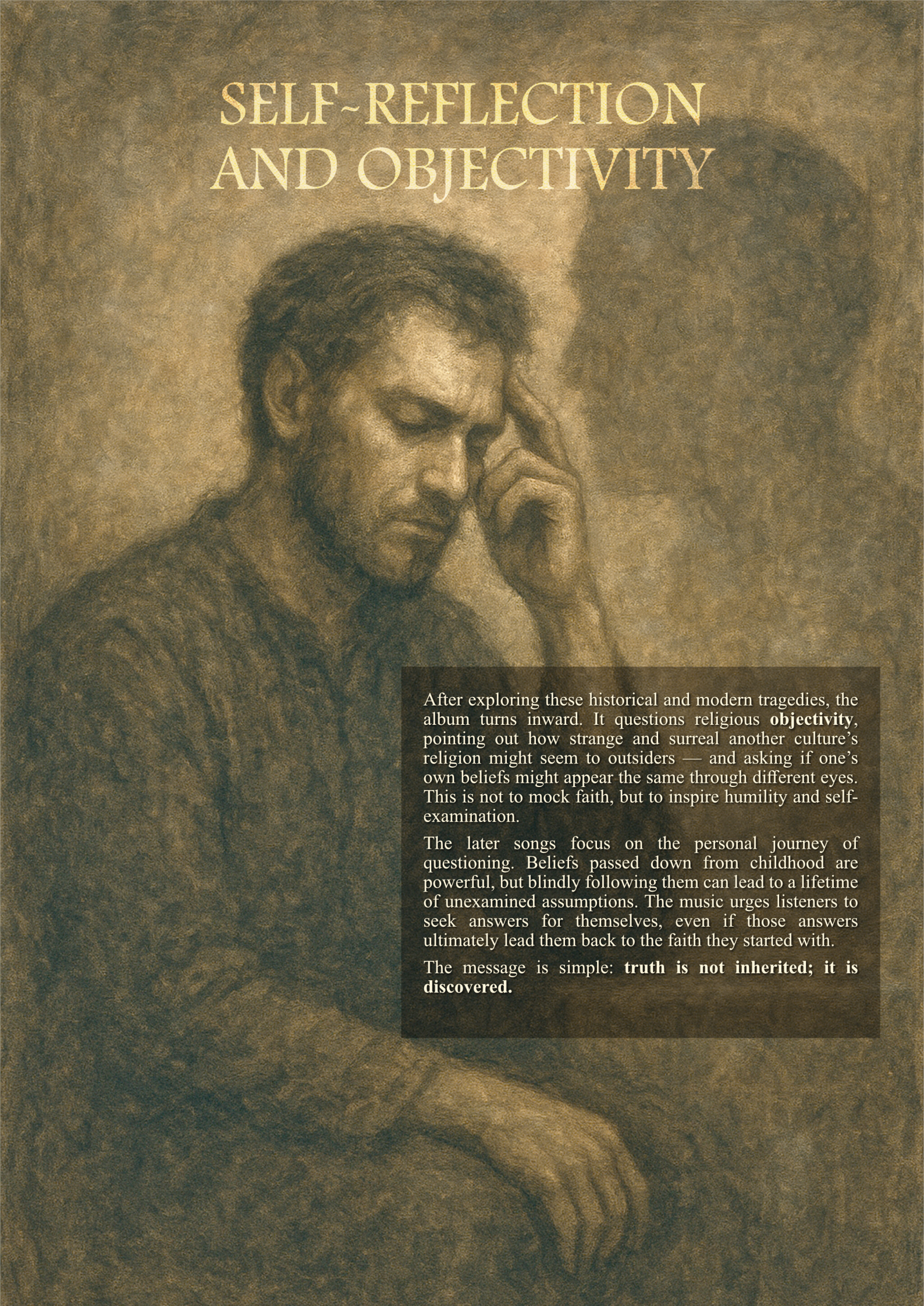
The heart of the record is a three-part section that examines the **atrocities committed in the name of faith.**

These songs are not against spirituality or belief, but against the human manipulation of religion for violence and control:

- **The Crusades:** The album recalls a time when armies marched under holy banners, killing and conquering while believing they were serving a higher purpose. The lyrics highlight how war — something drenched in pain and suffering — could never truly be the will of a benevolent God.
- **Extremism in the Middle East:** Another track confronts the horrors of modern genocides, inspired by groups who twisted sacred texts to justify mass executions, slavery, and terror. While the names are never directly spoken, the references are clear. The song is infused with Arabic musical influences, creating a haunting contrast between beauty and destruction.
- **Caste-Based Violence:** The final piece in this trilogy looks at the deeply ingrained caste system within Hinduism, which has condemned countless individuals to lives of oppression and suffering. It challenges the notion that divine will could ever demand such inequality.

These songs are sharp, direct, and emotional, acting as the brutal center of the album's narrative.

SELF-REFLECTION AND OBJECTIVITY

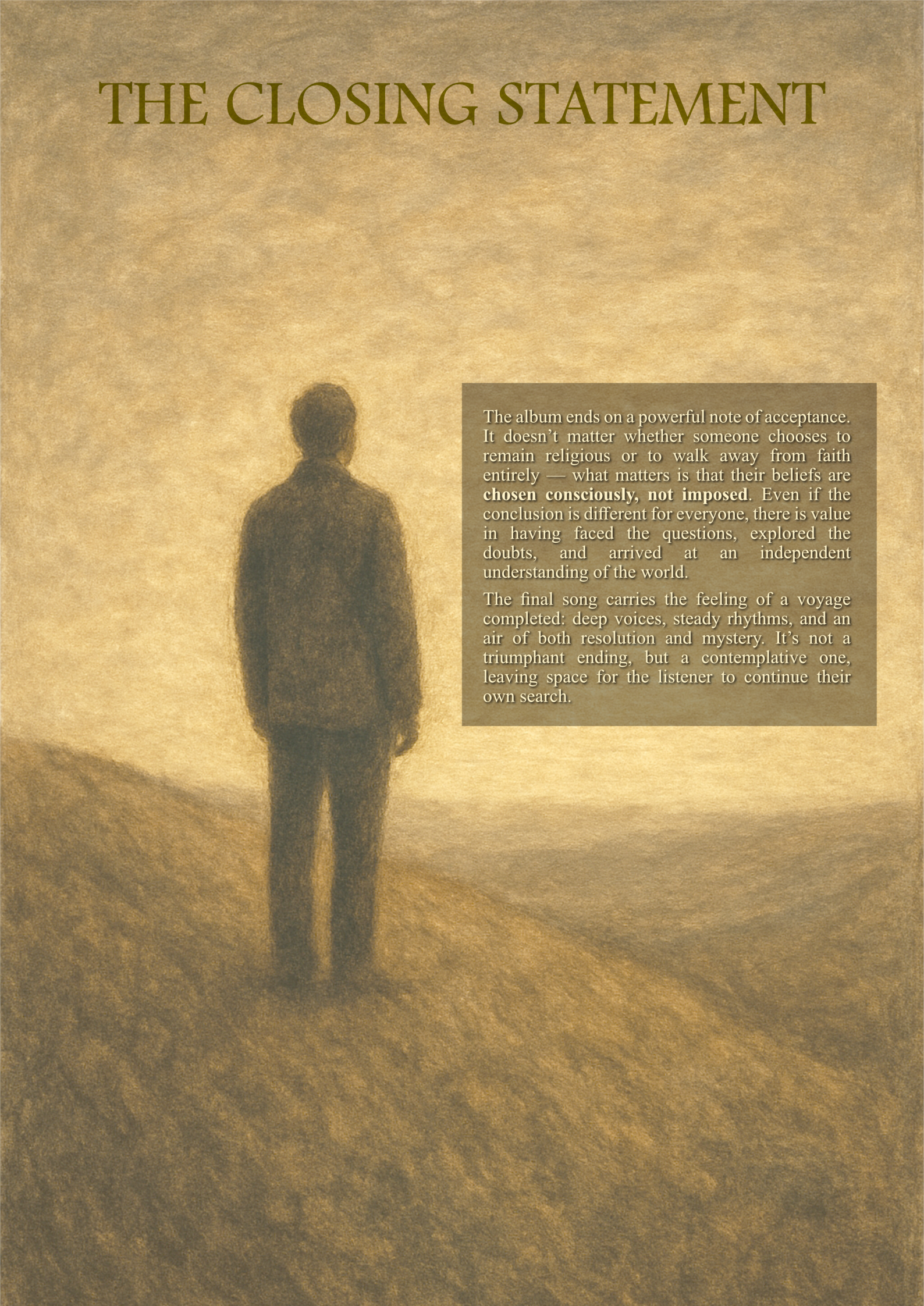


After exploring these historical and modern tragedies, the album turns inward. It questions religious **objectivity**, pointing out how strange and surreal another culture's religion might seem to outsiders — and asking if one's own beliefs might appear the same through different eyes. This is not to mock faith, but to inspire humility and self-examination.

The later songs focus on the personal journey of questioning. Beliefs passed down from childhood are powerful, but blindly following them can lead to a lifetime of unexamined assumptions. The music urges listeners to seek answers for themselves, even if those answers ultimately lead them back to the faith they started with.

The message is simple: **truth is not inherited; it is discovered.**

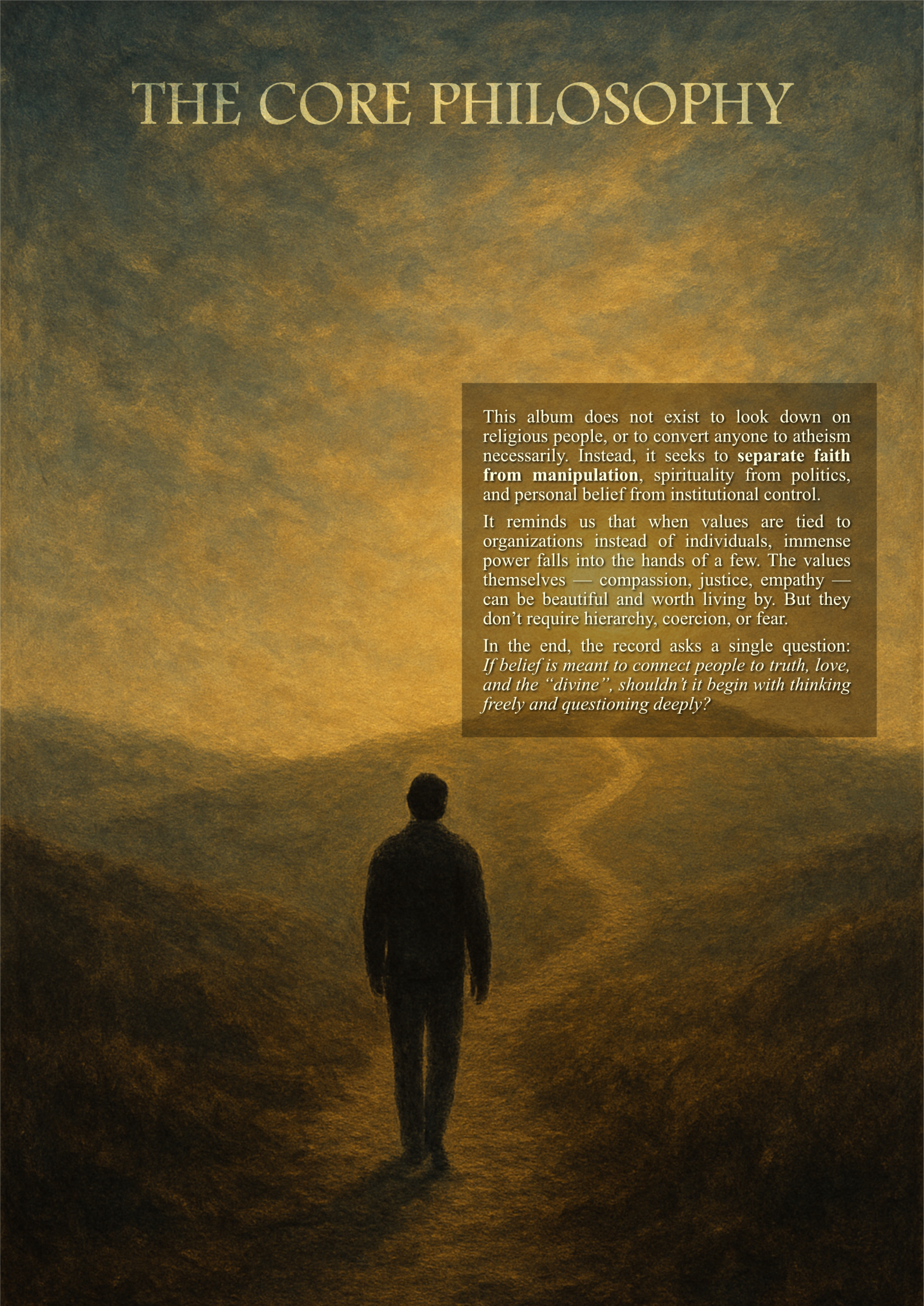
THE CLOSING STATEMENT



The album ends on a powerful note of acceptance. It doesn't matter whether someone chooses to remain religious or to walk away from faith entirely — what matters is that their beliefs are **chosen consciously, not imposed**. Even if the conclusion is different for everyone, there is value in having faced the questions, explored the doubts, and arrived at an independent understanding of the world.

The final song carries the feeling of a voyage completed: deep voices, steady rhythms, and an air of both resolution and mystery. It's not a triumphant ending, but a contemplative one, leaving space for the listener to continue their own search.

THE CORE PHILOSOPHY



This album does not exist to look down on religious people, or to convert anyone to atheism necessarily. Instead, it seeks to **separate faith from manipulation**, spirituality from politics, and personal belief from institutional control.

It reminds us that when values are tied to organizations instead of individuals, immense power falls into the hands of a few. The values themselves — compassion, justice, empathy — can be beautiful and worth living by. But they don't require hierarchy, coercion, or fear.

In the end, the record asks a single question: *If belief is meant to connect people to truth, love, and the "divine", shouldn't it begin with thinking freely and questioning deeply?*